

## BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus U.S. House of Representatives Jim Nussle, *Chairman* 

309 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 • (202) 226-7270 Rich Meade, *Chief of Staff* • <u>www.budget.house.gov</u>

Volume 4, Number 22

appropriations – by a nominal amount.

Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation scheduled for the House floor

20 September 2004

Week of 20 September 2004

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) Llagas Reclamation Groundwater Remediation Initiative (H.R. 4459). This bill establishes an interest-bearing account in the Treasury called the "California Basin Groundwater Remediation Fund," and authorizes the appropriation of \$25 million to the fund. The bill also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior provide grants from the fund to the Santa Clara Valley Water District for groundwater cleanup projects in the Llagas watershed in Santa Clara County, CA. The Secretary is authorized to pay up to 65 percent of the cost of the groundwater cleanup projects, though no spending on a project may occur until a project until the nonfederal share of the cost is either deposited into, or credited to, the account as an in-kind contribution. The bill also allows the interest on amounts deposited in the fund to be spent. This may increase direct spending – spending not subject to

2 Railroad Right-of-Way Conveyance Validation Act of 2003 (H.R. 1658). This bill clarifies that the Federal Government has no claim to two parcels of privately owned land in California. Those parcels were originally granted to the Central Pacific Railroad in 1862, and subsequently conveyed to private landowners. This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

3) To Authorize the Secretary of the Interior to Study the Suitability and Feasibility of Designating Castle Nugent Farms Located on St. Croix, Virgin Islands, as a Unit of the National Park System (H.R. 2663).



This bill requires the Department of the Interior to study the feasibility and suitability of designating the approximately 1,400-acre site of Castle Nugent Farms on St. Croix as a unit of the National Park System. The Department would be required to report its findings and recommendations within 3 years of receiving funds for the study, and funding would be subject to appropriations. This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

4) Right-to-Ride Livestock on Federal Lands Act of 2004 (H.R. 2966).

The bill requires the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to issue regulations directing Federal land management agencies to preserve and facilitate the continued use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on lands they administer. As a general rule, trails and areas now used by pack and saddle stock animals are to remain open and accessible for such use. This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

(continued on next page)

PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. Also note: Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and therefore may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

5) Riverside-Corona Feeder Authorization Act (H.R. 3334).



This bill allows the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the design, planning, and construction of three water supply projects in California: the Riverside-Corona Feeder Project; the Yucaipa Valley Regional Water Supply Renewal Project; and the City of Corona Water Recycling and Reuse Project. It allows the bureau to pay, subject to appropriations, the lesser of a) 35 percent of the cost of the Riverside-Corona Project; or b) \$50 million. It also authorizes the appropriation of \$20 million for the Yucaipa Valley project. The bill allows the bureau to pay up to 25 percent of the cost of the City of Corona water project. This bill does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

6) Western Reserve Heritage Areas Study Act (H.R. 3257).



This bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the national significance of certain Ohio counties, and the feasibility and suitability of designating them collectively as the Western Reserve Heritage Area. The study would analyze the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the study area, and would determine whether the lands provide significant conservation and recreational opportunities. This bill does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

7) Anti-Counterfeiting Amendments of 2003 (H.R. 3632).



This bill makes revisions to the Federal criminal code regarding trafficking in counterfeit labels. It creates additional criminal fines and allows copyright owners to bring civil actions in U.S. district courts. Enacting this bill could lead to a slight increase in both direct spending and revenue. This is due to a potential increase in fines collected from convictions for these crimes. Any such increases are expected to be negligible.

8) To Revise and Extend the Boys and Girls Clubs of America (S. 2363). This bill provides for the establishment of 300 additional Boys and Girls Clubs



of America. It authorizes, subject to appropriation, \$350 million for fiscal years 2006-09 for the Department of Justice to make grants for such purposes. This bill does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

9) Commemorating the Opening of the National Museum of the American Indian (S.J.Res. 41). This resolution has no budget implications.



10) Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Act (H.R. 2449).



The bill requires the Department of the Interior to establish a commission to develop and plan activities to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The commission, consisting of 25 members, would have about 11 years to report on its finding and recommendations. Members would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. The commission could hire staff or use personnel from other Federal agencies. The commission terminates 90 days after submitting its final report. The commission is allowed to spend any gifts or contributions made to it, so direct spending could rise nominally; but because such spending would derive from these contributions, the bill is budget neutral over time.

11) Hudson-Fulton-Champlain 400th Commemoration Commission Act of 2003 (H.R. 2528). This bill requires the Department of the Interior to establish a commission to assist in planning the commemorations of the voyages of Henry Hudson (the first European to sail up the Hudson River), Robert Fulton (the first person to use steam navigation on a commercial basis), and Samuel de Champlain (the first European to discover and explore Lake Champlain). The commission, consisting of 31 members, would have 6 years to report on its findings and recommendations. Members would serve without pay, but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission could hire staff or use personnel from other Federal agencies. The commission is allowed to spend any gifts or contributions made to it, so direct spending could rise nominally; but because such spending would derived from these contributions. the bill is budget neutral over time.

(continued on next page)

**Budget Week** Page 2

12) Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Preparedness Month (H.Con.Res. 489). This resolution has no budget implications.

13) Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week (H.Res. 772).



This resolution has no budget implications.

14) Expressing the Sense of Congress That the President Should Designate September 11 as a National Day of Voluntary Service, Charity, and Compassion (H.Con.Res. 473). This resolution has no budget implications.



15) Congratulating Lance Armstrong on His Record-Setting Victory in the 2004 Tour de France (H.Res. 761).

This resolution has no budget implications.

16) Eva Holtzman Post Office Building Designation Act (H.R. 5039). This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.



17) United States Postal Service Henry Johnson Annex Redesignation Act (H.R. 480). This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.



18) Recognizing the Outstanding Efforts of the Individuals and Communities Who Volunteered or Donated Items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Nebraska, During World War II From December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946 (H.Con.Res. 161).



This resolution has no budget implications.

19) Recognizing and Honoring Military Unit Family Support Volunteers for Their Dedicated Service to the United States, the Armed Forces, and Members of the Armed Forces and Their Families (H.Con.Res. 486).

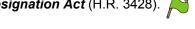


This resolution has no budget implications.

20) Commending the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its Employees for its Dedication and Hard Work During Hurricanes Charley and Frances (H.Con.Res. 488). This resolution has no budget implications.



21) Justin W. Williams United States Attorney's Building Designation Act (H.R. 3428). This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.



22) Joe Skeen Federal Building Designation Act (H.R. 3734). This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.



23) The Adoption Tax Relief Guarantee Act (H.R. 1057). This bill amends the Economic Growth and Tax Relief

Reconciliation Act of 2001 to make the sunset provisions inapplicable to the expanded and increased adoption credit and adoption assistance programs. Taxpayers now receive a tax credit of up to \$10,390 for 2004 adoption expenses. At the end of 2010, credit will drop to \$6,000 of expenses. Any revenue loss associated with this bill does not occur until after the 2005-09 period covered by the budget resolution, though over 10 years the bill reduces revenue by \$1.170 billion. The bill does not violate any provisions of the Congressional Budget Act.

(continued on next page)

**Budget Week** Page 3 24) Calling for the Suspension of Sudan's Membership on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (S.Con.Res. 137).



This resolution has no budget implications.

25) Condemning the Terrorist Attack in Jakarta, Indonesia, That Occurred on 9/9/04 (H.Res. 767).



This resolution has no budget implications.

26) Encouraging the International Olympic Committee to Select New York City as the Site of the 2012 Olympic Games (H.Con.Res. 475).



This resolution has no budget implications.

## **LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE**

Bill: Pledge Protection Act of 2004 (H.R. 2028).

Committee: Judiciary

Summary: This bill precludes any court established by Act of Congress to hear or determine any

claim that the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance violates the First Amendment of the

Constitution.

Cost: At the time of publication, a cost estimate was not available. Nevertheless, enacting this

bill is not expected to have a significant effect on the Federal budget.

**Budget Act:** This bill does not violate the Congressional Budget Act.

Prepared by ...... The Committee on the Budget

**Budget Week** Page 4